

by way of reform Must it go so fast? They fumed, but the work went on, and just as fast as Webb could make it go Fast, but without needlessly exasperating flourishes

Reports to the whole Council would come up, from this Committee and from that, reports that pushed the wedge of Collectivism in, each one a bit further The Chairman would mutter, "The Webb mixture, as before" But a smile would accompany the mutter The Report was, invariably, workmanlike, its proposals practical, and such as would redound to the credit of the Council The guiding spirit never advertised itself The draftsman never rubbed things in Things got done, that was what he cared about

He was on more than one committee, and as Edward Pease says, speaking from long familiarity with his ways, "Whenever Webb is on a committee, it may be assumed, in default of positive evidence to the contrary, that the Report is his work" He was also largely responsible for the shaping of the internal organisation of the Council's work for its Standing Orders and for the admirable form and fulness of its Agenda—in a word, for the forging of an efficient instrument of administration He took a directing part in this, as in the steady extension and transformation of London Government into a great organ of collective provision, and, for these services, all Londoners owe him gratitude But, important as his work in these spheres during his eighteen years

membership
from 1892 to 1910, his greatest administrative
accomplish-
ment, and the piece of work which W T Stead
had
predominantly in mind, was his creation for
London of
an educational system

In no respect did London lag more
disastrously behind
than in this For no issue did Webb feel more
passionately
than this on none was his knowledge
greater or more